COCHIN

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE BUDGET SESSION OF 1113.

Wednesday, *20th July, 1938.* / *5th Karkadagam, 1113.*

The Council met in the Council Hall, Ernakulam, at eleven of the Clock with the Hon'ble the President (SIR SHANMUKHAM CHETTY, K. C. I .E.) in the Chair.

Messrs. T. K. Nayar, L. M. Pylee, Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan, Ismail Hajee Essa Sait and T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar were absent.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

COCOANUT INDUSTRY IN THE STATE—PROTECTION AGAINST FOREIGN COMPETITIONS.

47. Mr. K. M. Ibrahim: With reference to question 114 of 4th December 1937, about protection to cocoanut industry in the State against foreign competition, will the Government be pleased to say where the matter now stands?

Mr. A. Sivarama Menon: Government have already addressed the Government of India in the matter and their decision is awaited.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim: Will the Hon'ble Minister kindly inform the House whether exactly the same answer was not given 8 months ago when the answer under reference was made?

Mr. A. Sivarama Menon: There has not been any appreciable progress since.

Mr. V. J. Mathai: May I know when the Government of India was addressed in the matter?

Mr. A. Sivarama Menon: I think it was nearly a year ago.

Mr. V. J. Mathai: Have you received any reply?

Mr. A. Sivarama Menon: No reply.

Mr. V. J. Mathai: May I know whether any reminder has been sent?

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Mr. A. Sivarama Menon: No reminder.

Mr. V. J. Mathai: Will the Government be pleased to send a reminder at least after the lapse of one year?

Mr. A. Sivarama Menon: We will consider that question.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim: In an important matter like this could not at least a reminder be sent within a period of eight months?

Mr. A. Sivarama Menon: Sir, may I just make the position clear?

This is a matter affecting not only this State but the State of Travancore and British Malabar. What has been done is not merely isolated representation by this Government alone but joint action by ourselves and the Governments of Travancore and Madras. So no useful purpose will be served by ourselves alone sending a reminder. I may assure the hon'ble members that the thing will be watched and necessary steps will be taken.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim: So far as our grievance is concerned, we should send a reminder requesting that the matter may be expedited.

Mr. A. Sivarama Menon: Government will certainly consider that aspect of the matter.

Mr. K. Kochukunjan Kaimal: Was not the level of price of cocoanut much lower this year than in the previous years?

Mr. A. Sivarama Menon: Yes, there is some reduction. I do not think there is any abnormal change. There is a very slight reduction.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim: Just half of what it was last year.

Mr. K. Kochukunjan Kaimal: Last year, cocoanuts were sold at Rs. 40 per thousand and this year, the price has gone down to below Rs. 20.

Mr. President: The lowest price of this year is just half the highest price last year.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim: So you say there is no appreciable fall.

Mr. A. Sivarama Menon: There has not been a sudden drop of 60 per cent from last year to this year. Of course there was slight reduction. That is Rs. 22 last year during certain months and now between Rs. 19 and 20.

Mr. K. Kochukunjan Kaimal: When compared to the figures of some of the years previous to last year, our price is just half.

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Mr. K. Achyuta Menon: That is in the case of copra. In the case of coir there is some increase.

Mr. B. M. Peter: Can you say what was the average price per thousand last year and this year?

Mr. A. Sivarama Menon: The highest of last year was Rs. 31.

I have got only a taluk-war list here. I have not got the average figures for the year. I think the average may roughly be put between Rs. 21 and 22. This year again the price is somewhere near Rs. 21. I do not think there is any appreciable fall.

Mr. K. Ayyappan: ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ ഇൻഡ്യാ ഗവ മ്മെണ്ടിനോടു് മുവു ചെയ്താൽ വല്ലതും ഫലമുണ്ടായിരിക്കും എന്ന വിശ്വാസം കൊണ്ടാണു് ഇവിടെ ചോദ്യങ്ങൾ ചോദിക്കുന്നതു്. ഫലം വല്ലതുമുണ്ടാകു മോ എന്നറിഞ്ഞാൽ കൊള്ളാം.

Mr. President: It may be the hon'ble member's inference.

Mr. K. Ayyappan: It is for the Hon'ble the President to give us more information.

Mr. President: The hon'ble members can draw their own inferences. But Government are not in a better position to give any more information on this matter.

As a matter of fact, we have represented to the Government of India officially. Further I have personally approached the Government of India when I went to Delhi last year and subsequent to that the Travancore Government has sent an official deputation headed by the Chief Secretary. From this any hon'ble member can draw his own inference.

Mr. K. Ayyappan: And both the Travancore Government and our Government have not got any reply?

Mr. President: We have not got.

Mr. K. Ayyappan: Can't we expect some reply?

Mr. A. Sivarama Menon: Further I also found a private letter addressed by you, Sir, to the Member for Commerce with the Government of India.

Mr. President: I had discussions with the Government of India both officially and unofficially.

Mr. K. Ayyappan: What was the out-come of the unofficial representation?

Mr. President: I have made certain suggestions, as an alternative to increasing the import duty. We have not so far received any indication as to what the Government are going to do.

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Dr. A. R. Menon: Sir, will it be an act of discourtesy to send a reminder?

Mr. President: We will do that.

SMALL-POX CASES 1111, 1112 AND 1113.

48. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar : Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) the total number of attacks and deaths of small-pox in the years 1111, 1112 and 1113 ;

(*b*) the number of deaths of persons who were vaccinated ;

(*c*) and the number of deaths of those who were not vaccinated each year ?

Mr. A. Sivarama Menon :

		1111.	1112.	1113.
(*a*)	Attacks	700	797	281
	Deaths	87	142	78

(*b*) and (*c*) Separate statistics are not maintained of the number of deaths of persons who were vaccinated and who were not vaccinated.

Mr. M. K. Devassy: (*b*) and (*c*) Will the Government be pleased to do it hereafter ?

Mr. A. Sivarama Menon: We have already taken steps in that direction.

Mr. V. J. Mathai: On a point of information I ask, sir, if a question stands in the name of one member and if that member is not present, can another member put that question?

Mr. President: In this case, that member has authorised Mr. Devassy to put these questions. If an hon'ble member is absent, he can authorise in writing some other member to ask questions standing in his name.

Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon: Is it not brought to the notice of the Government that it is generally in cases not vaccinated that deaths by small-pox occur?

Mr. A. Sivarama Menon: That is generally the case. In the case of protected persons deaths are very few.

Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon: Is it brought to the notice of the Government that vaccination is not satisfactorily carried on in the Mukundapuram Taluk?

Mr. A. Sivarama Menon: We were carrying on the vaccination and we were doing our very best.

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